

April 4, 2008

**Obey AT ANTIGO EAST ELEMENTARY
for update on after school program**

ANTIGO, WI - Seventh District Congressman Dave Obey (D-WI) was at Antigo East Elementary School today for an update on the Antigo School District's after school program. Obey secured \$383,370 in federal funds last year for the CESA 9 After-School Consortium of which Antigo School District is a member.

"Research shows that when students have a place to go after school where they can study and be supervised by an adult, not only are they less likely to get into trouble, they also get a better education. That's why we pushed for more funding for after-school centers in the budget and why I asked for the funds to help keep programs like this going in Wisconsin," Obey said.

"I'm glad to be here today to see first hand how things are going here in Antigo."

"For what we spend on the war in Iraq we could completely fund a program like this every minute," Obey added. "That just goes to show you how much we could be doing here at home if we weren't stuck in this misbegotten war."

The Antigo after-school program is intended to provide a safe, healthy, enriching, supervised after-school environment for children in Antigo elementary schools. On average, about 100 students attend the program daily. The program is organized into four to six week sessions with a theme and varied activities during each session. Ongoing activities include:

homework assistance, tutoring, mentoring, physical fitness activities, field trips, and special monthly "Family Fun Nights".

"There is nothing more important for the future of our children than a good education," Obey noted. "Offering extra help with homework, advanced tutoring and an adult-supervised safe-haven free of trouble, after-school programs like this one help provide students a solid foundation that will help them for the rest of their lives."

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